



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

LIFELINE AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS: In today's highly interconnected world, telephones and broadband access provide lifelines to emergency help, community resources, and government services, as well as friends and family. However, a number of households are unable to afford telephone service or broadband access; and
- WHEREAS: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Georgia Public Service Commission have joined efforts to lower the cost of telephone and internet service for low-income consumers by providing a discount on the connection fee and monthly charges, thereby reaching a greater number of customers; and
- WHEREAS: The Lifeline Assistance program offers benefits for eligible citizens and makes basic telephone and internet service more affordable by providing a discount to eligible low-income customers on their monthly phone bill or broadband service; and
- WHEREAS: The FCC has established Enhanced Link-Up and Lifeline programs for Tribal Lands and recently updated its rules governing Lifeline program eligibility and nonduplication of support; and
- WHEREAS: The Lifeline program has undergone a transformation in recent years to improve program efficiency and combat waste, fraud, and abuse to ensure that only those eligible are receiving this vital support; and
- WHEREAS: The FCC, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, other state and federal agencies, cities, counties, organizations, and telecommunications companies are committed to increasing awareness of the availability of the Link-Up and Lifeline programs and are encouraging eligible citizens to enroll; and
- WHEREAS: During Lifeline Awareness Week, government agencies, industry leaders, and consumer advocates are encouraged to educate residents about the importance of connectivity; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 11–17, 2017, as LIFELINE AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF